

**Remarks**

Claims 1, 7 and 8 have been amended. Claims 2 and 3 have been canceled. Claims 1 and 4-8 are pending in the application. Reconsideration of the rejections and objections at an early date is requested.

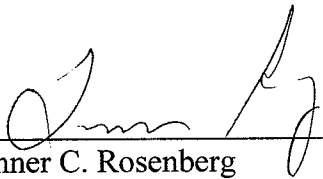
Claims 1, 2, and 4-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C.103(a) and being unpatentable over Alderson et al. (WO 03/098025) in view of Bratt et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,249,377). However, claims 3, 7 and 8 were indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the language of claims 2 and 3. Claims 7 and 8 have been amended to incorporate the language of previous claim 1. It is respectfully submitted that these amendments put claims 1, 7 and 8 in condition for allowance. Furthermore, since the remaining claims are dependent, either directly or indirectly from claim 1, claims 4-6 should also be allowable.


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**APPLICATION NO. 10/581,145**

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Respectfully submitted,

  
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